

WHAT CAUSES BLIGHT?

The processes which create blight are many. Some blight can be directly related to the indifference, ignorance, or poor foresight of individuals, while other cases are due to forces beyond the control of any given person or group. Inherent in the causes of blight are action both omitted and committed. The following are some of the factors which are believed to cause or accelerate the formation of blight.

Absentee Ownership

Quite often when property owners live in areas removed from their holdings, they are un-informed or mis-informed of changes that are taking place around their property. The result is a failure to respond or adjust to a changing situation. Also, absentee owners frequently lack the pride which accompanies occupying one's own home. Lack of owner pride and transient occupancy often lead to neglect of property and its consequent deterioration.

Housing Shortage

A shortage of housing forces people to seek shelter in substandard housing in lieu of more desirable quarters. It encourages overcrowding, improper conversion of residential structures and the lowering of maintenance